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SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: CASC KJUS PREL PHUM PTER KIRF IR VT

SUBJECT: (SBU) IRANIANS CHASTISE HOLY SEE ON LEVINSON

REF: A. 07 STATE 166406

¶B. VATICAN 58

¶C. VATICAN 21

¶D. 07 VATICAN 194

¶11. (SBU) According to Monsignor Franco Coppola, Director for the Middle East at the Holy See Secretariat of State, the Government of Iran recently informed the Holy See Nuncio in Teheran that it does not have any information about the whereabouts of U.S. citizen Robert Levinson. The GOI informed the Nuncio that the Swiss Ambassador, on behalf of the USG, had already raised the issue. The GOI added that the Holy See has no business expressing interest in the case. (Note: The Nuncio raised the Levinson case with the GOI at USG request (reftel A). End note.)

¶12. (SBU) Comment: The GOI's chastising reply to the Nuncio's inquiry about Levinson's disappearance terminates the Holy See attempt to elicit information on the case. End comment.

GLENDON